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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT**9 MARCH 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – Man Faces Federal Gun Trafficking Charges

(U) A man faces firearms trafficking charges after allegedly selling a variety of guns to undercover investigators. A federal grand jury yesterday returned an 18-count indictment against Shawn Darrell Wilson, 27, charging him with dealing firearms without a license, possessing a firearm as a felon and illegal possession of a machine gun. Wilson met with an undercover agent and two confidential sources on 17 occasions between September and December 2017, and sold them a total of 46 firearms, including a fully automatic machine gun, several AR-15-type rifles and pistols, and handguns.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Texas – Assaults on Border Patrol Agents Continue in South Texas

(U) Falfurrias – Recently published data by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reveals a high number of assaults on Border Patrol agents, even though immigrant arrests were down. In 2017, there were 847 assaults against CBP agents, compared to 584 in 2016 – a 45 percent increase. Since suspension of survey data, the trend is continuing at a similar rate with 230 assaults reported from October 2017 to the end of January 2018. A CBP agent who was recently engaged in a confrontation stated that the data is a result of increased desperation by those seeking to cross illegally.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [KENS](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Alabama – Man Pleads Guilty to Attempting to Provide Material Support to ISIS

(U) Huntsville – Aziz Ihab Sayyed, 23, was charged earlier this week with attempting to provide services and support to the Islamic State in Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS). Sayyed pled guilty yesterday to the charges. Sayyed also acknowledged that he bought bomb-building ingredients last year, stated his aspirations to conduct ISIS-inspired attacks on police stations and Redstone Arsenal, and attempted to form a cell to conduct violent acts within the United States. Sayyed admitted knowing that ISIS is a designated foreign terrorist organization. Sayyed's plea agreement stipulates a 15-year prison sentence.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [US Department of Justice](#)

(U) Ohio – Fentanyl Ring has Ties to Mexican Cartel

(U) Middletown – Twelve people have been indicted in connection with an international narcotics and money laundering conspiracy. According to federal investigators, members of the group distributed fentanyl from Mexico to Ohio. Proceeds were allegedly sent back to the Sinaloa drug cartel in Mexico. The indictments were the result of a yearlong investigation. Officials said that the investigation gained ground in August 2017, when 5 kilograms of fentanyl – with a street value of \$1.4 million – was seized. In addition to the superseding indictment unsealed yesterday, officials said 40 defendants have been charged in San Diego, as well as additional defendants charged in Columbus, Ohio; eastern Kentucky;

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Kansas; and Washington.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [WLWT News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – Bomb Attack Leaves at Least Nine Dead**

(U) Kabul – A suicide bomber killed at least nine people in the Afghan capital today. The bomber detonated his explosive device after being stopped at a security checkpoint as crowds gathered for a memorial to a former political leader. A spokesperson for the Ministry of Public Health confirmed that at least 18 people had been injured. No one has yet to claim responsibility for the attack, but it comes less than two weeks after Afghan President Ashraf Ghani offered to recognize the Taliban as an official political party if it was to enter peace talks.

SOURCE: 9 March 2018, [CNN](#)

(U) Mexico – US Issues Travel Alert for Resort Town

(U) Mexico City – The US Embassy in Mexico said that a security alert about the Caribbean resort town of Playa del Carmen was not related to last month's explosion on a ferry that injured at least two dozen people. The embassy did not specify what kind of security threat it had been informed of in the resort that prompted the warning. The alert included an indefinite ban on travel to Playa del Carmen by US government employees. It said the US consular agency there will be closed until further notice.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) South Korea – North Korea Suspected in Cyberattack on Turkey

(U) Seoul – Cyber researcher McAfee LLC released a report yesterday, that links North Korean hackers to cyberattacks on Turkish financial institutions and a government organization. The attacks on 2 - 3 March, attempted to lure targets with faux links to a popular cryptocurrency platform, allowing hackers to plunder sensitive information about the breached computer networks. The report doesn't identify the entities that were compromised.

SOURCE: 8 March 2018, [Wall Street Journal](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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